

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the following version in which claim 1 has been amended and claim 6 has been cancelled.

1. (Currently Amended) A high-speed connector for connecting at least one cable to a mating connector, the cable having a plurality of signal conductors and at least one grounding conductors therein, comprising:
 - a holder for holding a free end of the cable in a preselected position;
 - a plurality of conductive signal terminals and one ground terminal, each signal and ground terminal including a termination end and a contact end disposed at opposite ends of the terminal for terminating to said cable signal and ground conductors;
 - an insulative housing formed from interengaging upper and lower body portions, the housing having a mating face for mating with the mating connector and a cable face for engaging said cable, the upper and lower body portions cooperatively holding the cable holder and said ~~terminal~~ terminals in place within the housing, the upper body portion having an upper grounding hole extending through said upper body portion, the lower body portion including a lower grounding hole extending through the lower body portion;
 - said housing further including a plurality of mating openings formed along the mating face thereof, each of the mating openings communicating with a single terminal of said connector; and,
 - a grounding shell substantially surrounding the upper and lower body portions of said housing and including a plurality of openings formed by connective bridges that extend between an upper plate and a lower plate of the grounding shell, the plurality of openings formed thereby corresponding to and aligned with said housing mating openings, said grounding shell further including grounding arms that electrically and mechanically contact said grounding terminal within said housing, thereby providing a grounded shell substantially enclosing said connector, at least one of the grounding arms of the grounding shell is in electrical and mechanical contact with the grounding terminal so as to maintain the grounding shell at a reference potential thereby providing an electrical shield that substantially surrounds signal terminals enclosed in said connector.

2. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing lower body portion includes a plurality of sidewalls disposed thereon and extending longitudinally within said lower body portion to define a plurality of terminal-receiving partitions, said terminals being disposed in the terminal-receiving partitions.
3. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing upper body and the lower body portions are joined to each other by ultrasonic welding.
4. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said housing upper and lower body portions include a plurality of assembly holes, and said cable holder includes a plurality of assembly posts projecting therefrom, the assembly posts being received within said assembly holes, thereby fixing said cable holder in said housing.
5. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cable has a plurality of cable wires are joined to said terminals.
6. Cancelled.
7. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein said upper and lower grounding arms contact said grounding terminal from opposite sides thereof to define a three layer grounding connection.
8. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein said upper and lower grounding plates each have a length that extends between said housing mating face and said cable holder.
9. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 8, wherein said upper and lower grounding plates have equal lengths.
10. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein said upper and lower grounding arms are formed in respective center portions of said grounding shell upper and lower grounding plates.

11. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of said grounding shell upper and lower grounding plates include an elastic flap formed thereon and oriented transversely thereto for contacting a transverse portion of said mating connector.

12. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of said grounding shell upper and lower grounding plates includes an elastic flap formed thereon and oriented transversely thereto for contacting a transverse portion of said mating connector.

13. (Cancelled)